



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Colonel Michael A. Fantini

Colonel Mike Fantini was born on 23 February 1964 in Vineland, New Jersey. He attended the Catholic University of America, Washington DC, graduating in 1986, earning a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and his Reserve Officer Training Corps commission from Howard University. Additionally, Col Fantini has earned a Masters of Aeronautical Science, from Embry Riddle University, in 1996. He has attended Squadron Officers School, as well as, the Marine Corps Staff College, and has completed Air Command and Staff College by correspondence. In 2005, Colonel Fantini received a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National War College.

Following his commission, Colonel Fantini, reported to Undergraduate Pilot Training at Williams AFB and earned his wings in 1988. He was then assigned to initial F-16 training at MacDill AFB, Florida graduating in June 1989. He then reported to the 68th Fighter Squadron, Moody AFB, as an F-16 pilot. While in the Lightin' Lancers, he served as a squadron scheduler, assistant training officer, Electronic Combat Pilot and instructor pilot. Col Fantini, then reported to the 35th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan AB, ROK, as a Flight Commander and instructor pilot. In July 1993 he attended the USAF Weapons Instructor Course. After completing WIC, Colonel Fantini, reported to the 4th Fighter Squadron, Hill AFB, as the Weapons Officer and culminating as the Assistant Director of Operations. In November 1996, he was assigned to Nellis AFB as an F-16 WIC Instructor Pilot, serving as division scheduler, Academic Flight Commander and Assistant Director of Operations. After leaving Nellis, Colonel Fantini reported to the Secretary Air Force, Office of Special Programs, Pentagon, Washington DC. He served as a Chief, Fighter Weapons Branch. Following his Pentagon tour, he attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico, Va. After his academic year, Col Fantini reported to the 31st Fighter Wing as Chief of Safety, then as Operations Officer, and later Commander of the 510th Fighter Squadron. Following command Colonel Fantini attended the National War College, Ft McNair, Washington DC. He then transferred to the Pentagon, as an Operations Officer, Joint Operations Directorate, Central Command and Global Force Management Divisions. Prior to his current assignment, he held the position of Division Chief, Command Control Communications and Computers, Operational Requirements, Headquarters Air Force.



Col Fantini is a command pilot with more than 3,000 hours in the F-16, T-37 and T-38.

He is married to the former Anne Rizzo of Buffalo, New York, and has three children: Elizabeth, Mike Jr., and Anneliese.

EDUCATION:

1986, Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
1994, Squadron Officers School
1996, Masters of Aeronautical Science, Embry Riddle University, Daytona Beach, Fld
1998, Air Command and Staff College, Correspondence
2000, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico Va
2005, Masters in National Security Studies, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington DC

ASSIGNMENTS:

1987 – 1988, Student, Pilot Training, Williams Air Force Base, Arizona
1988 – 1989, F-16 Student Pilot, 72nd Tactical Training Fighter Squadron, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida
1989 – 1992, F-16 Pilot, Instructor Pilot, 68th Fighter Squadron, Moody Air Force Base, Georgia
1992 – 1993, Flight Commander, 35th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea
1993 – 1994, Student, Weapons Instructor Course, USAF Weapons School, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada
1994 – 1996, Weapons Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Utah

1996 – 1999, Flight Commander, Assistant Operations Officer, USAF Weapons School, Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada
1999 – 2000, Chief Fighter Weapons Branch, Secretary Air Force, Special Programs, Pentagon, Washington D.C.
2000 – 2001, Student, Marine Corps Staff College, Quantico, Va
2001 – 2002, Chief of Safety, Aviano Air Base, Italy
2002 – 2002, Operations Officer, 510th Fighter Squadron, Aviano Air Base, Italy
2002 – 2004, Commander, 510th Fighter Squadron, Aviano Air Base, Italy
2004 – 2005, Student, National War College, Fort McNair, Washington DC
2005 – 2007, Operations Officer and Deputy Division Chief Global Force Management, Joint Operations Directorate, J-3, Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington DC
2007 – 2008, Chief C4 Capabilities Division, Directorate of Operational Capabilities Requirements, Joint Integration, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington DC
2008 – Present, Commander 332d Expeditionary Operations Group, Joint Base Balad, Iraq

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight hours: 3,000+

Aircraft flown: T-37, T-38, AT-38, F-16

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Bronze Star

Joint Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal

Air Medal

Aerial Achievement Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

AF Outstanding Unit Award

Combat Readiness Medal

National Defense Service Medal

AF Overseas Short Tour Ribbon

AF Longevity Service Award Ribbon

AF Training Ribbon

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant: 10 May 86

First Lieutenant: Sept 88

Captain: Sept 90

Major: Jun 98

Lieutenant Colonel: 1 Mar 02

Colonel: 4 May 07

(Current as Apr 08)